



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

**Substitute Bill No. 5387**

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB05387GAE\_\_\_\_\_031516\_\_\_\_\_\*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE CIRCULATION OF NOMINATING PETITIONS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-453e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and*  
3 *applicable to nominating petitions circulated on or after said date*):

4 Each circulator of a nominating petition page shall be a United  
5 States citizen [,] and at least eighteen years of age [and a resident of a  
6 town in this state] and shall not be on parole for conviction of a felony.  
7 Any individual proposed as a candidate in any nominating petition  
8 may serve as circulator of the pages of such nominating petition.

9 Sec. 2. Section 9-453j of the general statutes is repealed and the  
10 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and*  
11 *applicable to nominating petitions circulated on or after said date*):

12 Each page of a nominating petition submitted to the town clerk or  
13 the Secretary of the State and filed with the Secretary of the State under  
14 the provisions of sections 9-453a to 9-453s, inclusive, or section 9-216  
15 shall contain a statement as to the [residency in this state and]  
16 eligibility of the circulator and authenticity of the signatures [thereon]  
17 on the nominating petition, signed under [penalties] penalty of false  
18 statement, by the person who circulated the [same] nominating  
19 petition. Such statement shall set forth (1) such circulator's residence

20 address, [including the town in this state in which such circulator is a  
21 resident,] (2) the circulator's date of birth and that the circulator is at  
22 least eighteen years of age, (3) that the circulator is a United States  
23 citizen and not on parole for conviction of a felony, [and] (4) that each  
24 person whose name appears on such page signed [the same] such page  
25 in person in the presence of [such] the circulator and that either the  
26 circulator knows each such signer or [that the] such signer  
27 satisfactorily identified himself or herself to the circulator, and (5) that  
28 the circulator agrees to submit to the jurisdiction of this state in any  
29 case or controversy arising out of or related to the circulation of a  
30 nominating petition pursuant to this subpart. Any false statement  
31 committed with respect to such statement shall be deemed to have  
32 been committed in the town in which the petition was circulated.

33 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 9-453k of the general statutes is  
34 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
35 *passage and applicable to nominating petitions circulated on or after said*  
36 *date*):

37 (a) The town clerk or Secretary of the State shall not accept any page  
38 of a nominating petition unless the circulator [thereof] of such  
39 nominating petition has signed before him or an appropriate person as  
40 provided in section 1-29 [,] the statement as to the [residency in this  
41 state and] eligibility of the circulator and authenticity of the signatures  
42 [thereon] on the nominating petition required by section 9-453j, as  
43 amended by this act.

44 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 9-453o of the general statutes is  
45 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
46 *passage and applicable to nominating petitions circulated on or after said*  
47 *date*):

48 (a) The Secretary of the State may not count, for purposes of  
49 determining compliance with the number of signatures required by  
50 section 9-453d, the signatures certified by the town clerk on any  
51 petition page filed under sections 9-453a to 9-453s, inclusive, or 9-216

52 if: (1) The name of the candidate, [his] the candidate's address or the  
 53 party designation, if any, has been omitted from the face of the  
 54 petition; (2) the page does not contain a statement by the circulator as  
 55 to the [residency in this state and] eligibility of the circulator and  
 56 authenticity of the signatures [thereon] on such page as required by  
 57 section 9-453j, as amended by this act, or upon which such statement of  
 58 the circulator is incomplete in any respect; or (3) the page does not  
 59 contain the certifications required by sections 9-453a to 9-453s,  
 60 inclusive, by the town clerk of the town in which the signers reside.  
 61 The town clerk shall cure any omission on [his] the town clerk's part  
 62 by signing any such page at the office of the Secretary of the State and  
 63 making the necessary amendment or by filing a separate statement in  
 64 this regard, which amendment shall be dated.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage and applicable to nominating petitions circulated on or after said date</i>	9-453e
Sec. 2	<i>from passage and applicable to nominating petitions circulated on or after said date</i>	9-453j
Sec. 3	<i>from passage and applicable to nominating petitions circulated on or after said date</i>	9-453k(a)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage and applicable to nominating petitions circulated on or after said date</i>	9-453o(a)

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Section 2(4), "the same" was bracketed and after the closing bracket "such page" was inserted for clarity, and "that the" was bracketed and "such" was inserted before "signer" for proper grammar; in Section 3(a), "thereof" was bracketed and after the closing bracket "of such"

nominating petition" was inserted for clarity; and in Section 4(a)(2), "thereon" was bracketed and after the closing bracket "on such page" was inserted for clarity.

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*